

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: EA/J:JWCAMPBELL:BCL

APPROVED BY: EA/J-HLEVIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115991

FOLLOWING REPEAT TOKYO 7107 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USIA NAHA
VOA KADENA 31 MAY

QUTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7107

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL PFOR TECH JA

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS RE VOA RELAY STATION - PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: STATE 108517

1. MAINICHI SHIMBUN MAY 31 MORNING EDITION FRONTPAGES STORY
ATTRIBUTED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES THAT U.S. HAS UN-
OFFICIALLY INFORMED GOJ OF ITS ACCEPTANCE OF GOJ POSITION
ON FUTURE OF VOA RELAY STATION AND THAT IT WILL REMOVE AND
RELOCATE THE FACILITY BY MAY 1977 ON BASIS ARTICLE EIGHT
OF REVERSION AGREEMENT. ACCORDING STORY, U.S. SIDE WILL
FORMALLY INFORM GOJ OF POSITION SHORTLY.

2. IF QUERIED ON ACCURACY OF STORY, EMBASSY PLANS TO RESPOND
AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS COMPLETED
ITS REVIEW OF THE FORMAL CONSULATATIONS HELD MAY 7 AND 8 IN
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TOKYO CONCERNING FUTURE OPERATIONS OF THE VOA RELAY STATION

IN OKINAWA, AND WE HAVE BEEN IN SUBSEQUENT CONTACT WITH THE GOJ RESPECTING THE U.S. POSITION ON THE RELAY STATION. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THERE WILL BE AN OCCASION SOON TO REOPEN FORMAL VOA CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOJ. IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE NO FURTHER COMMENT ON THE CONTENT OF THE DISCUSSIONS.

3. AFTER THE MEETING OF JUNE 5 AT WHICH WE FORMALLY INFORM GOJ OF OUR POSITION, WE PLAN TO RESPOND TO QUERIES ALONG THESE LINES: WHILE WE REGRET THE JAPANESE DECISION TO CALL FOR TERMINATION OF VOA OPERATIONS, THE U.S. HAS INFORMALLY INFORMED THE GOJ THAT IT ACCEPTS THE GOJ DECISION AND WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO COMPLETE A SUBSTITUTE FACILITY BY 1977. THE POSITION OF THE U.S. IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS IN ARTICLE EIGHT OF THE OKINAWA REVERSION AGREEMENT AND WITH THE AGREED MINUTE REGARDING ARTICLE EIGHT.
END QUOTE

SHOESMITH UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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